

## **Chapter Nine: Implementation Considerations**

### **Section Two: Task Force Process, Studies and Analyses**

## CHAPTER NINE: Implementation Considerations

### Current Conditions

In light of the magnitude of the recommendations contained in this report and the uncertainties surrounding current economic conditions, the Task Force recognized that the implementation of some of its recommendations may have to be delayed. Nevertheless, the Task Force remains committed to the importance of the substantial investment in Arizona's transportation system as part of the essential foundation of the State's economy. Through its work and studies the Task Force has substantiated the underlying reasons for its creation, as listed in the Governor's Executive Order:

"a well-developed, reliable transportation system is acknowledged to be crucial to the growth and economic vitality of the State of Arizona; and

"a high-quality transportation system is essential to the continued development and enhancement of intrastate, as well as interstate commerce; ..."

The investment in Arizona's transportation system recommended in this report will help ensure that our State faces the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a vital economy and is prepared for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

It is also important to consider the positive economic stimulus of public and private spending on transportation system improvements, especially during periods of economic sluggishness.

### Policy Review

The Task Force recognizes the critical role of state policy makers in both the Executive and Legislative branches of government and the myriad of competing interest and pressures that must be continually weighed and balanced.

The Task Force urges state policy makers to examine carefully the findings presented in this

report and to consider fully the recommendations. The Recommendations have been developed in an effort to ensure that Arizona's transportation system is able to adequately meet our state's future needs.

### Multimodal Integration

Throughout its deliberations, the Task Force recognized the need to integrate more effectively all aspects of the transportation system. Users of the system are focused on moving goods and people from place to place and are not focused on the ownership of the components of the overall system. Easing the transfer of goods and people from one transportation mode to another is essential to a truly multimodal system that maximizes the benefits of each alternate transportation mode. Performance-based planning and programming, which encourages project cost and effectiveness comparison across modes, will also facilitate the development of a cost effective, multimodal system for Arizona.

### Commitment to Fiscal Efficiency

The magnitude of the identified needs of the statewide transportation system over the coming two decades necessitate the careful and efficient use of all transportation revenues. Continuing attention to effective fiscal management and fiscal efficiency will maximize the returns from Arizona's investment in its transportation future.

### Arizona's Transportation Future

By focusing on the needs and expectations of Arizona traveling public as well as the needs of Arizona's economy to move goods and people, especially commuters, throughout the State, the transportation system of the future will effectively meet the challenges and opportunities ahead. Although it may seem self-evident, the true test of Arizona's future transportation system will not be the cost of the system or the structure of its components, but rather how effectively and efficiently it moves people and goods from their origins to their destinations.